

Last Time: Bases!

Basis  $\leadsto$  Bases  
 $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
 singular plural

Prop: Let  $V$  be a vector space w/  $B \subseteq V$ .

The following are equivalent:

- ①  $B$  is a basis

- ②  $B$  is linearly independent and spans  $V$ .

- ③ B is a minimal spanning set.

(i.e.  $B$  spans  $V$  but no proper subset of  $B$  spans  $V$ )

i.e.  $\text{span}(B) = V$  but for all  $b \in B$

$$\text{span}(B \setminus \{b\}) \neq V.$$

- ④ B is a maximal independent set.  $S \cup T = \{x : x \in S \text{ or } x \in T\}$

(i.e.  $B$  is independent in  $V$  but for all  $v \in V \setminus B$  we have  $B \cup \{v\}$  is dep.)

- ⑤ Every vector in  $V$  can be expressed uniquely as a linear combination in  $B$ .

We'll prove  $(2) \Rightarrow (5)$ . Rest is left as an exercise.

pf: Let  $B \subseteq V$  for some vector space  $V$ . Assume  $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$

②  $\Rightarrow$  ⑤: Suppose  $B$  is lin. ind and spans  $V$ .

Let  $u \in V$  be arbitrary. Because  $\text{span}(B) = V$ ,

we can write  $u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n$  for

Some  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$ . Assume there is another

linear combination  $u = c_1' b_1 + c_2' b_2 + \dots + c_n' b_n$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 0_V &= u - u = (c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n) - (c_1' b_1 + c_2' b_2 + \dots + c_n' b_n) \\ &= (c_1 - c_1') b_1 + (c_2 - c_2') b_2 + \dots + (c_n - c_n') b_n. \end{aligned}$$

Because  $B$  is linearly independent, we must have

$$c_1 - c_1' = c_2 - c_2' = \dots = c_n - c_n' = 0$$

Thus  $c_i - c_i' = 0$  for all  $i$ , so  $c_i = c_i'$  for all  $i$ .

Hence these are the same linear combination of  $B$ ,

So we have a unique expression of  $u$  as a lin. comb.

⑤  $\Rightarrow$  ②: Assume every vector  $u \in V$  can be expressed uniquely as a linear combination of vectors in  $B$ .

Hence for any  $u \in V$  there are coefficients

$$c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n \in \text{span}(B)$$

Hence  $V \subseteq \text{span}(B) \subseteq V$ , so  $\text{span}(B) = V$ .

Note  $0_V \in V$ , so there is a unique linear combination of vectors in  $B$  yielding  $0_V$ , namely

$$0_V = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n. \quad \text{On the other hand,}$$

$$0_V = \underline{0b_1 + 0b_2 + \dots + 0b_n}, \text{ so EVERY } 0_V \text{ linear}$$

combination in  $B$  is the trivial combination. Hence

$B$  is lin indep by definition.



Point: Given a vector  $u \in V$  and two bases,  $B$  and  $B'$ , we can compare their "representations" of  $u$ ...  
i.e. we can uniquely represent  $u$  as a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for each of these bases, and compare...

Notation:  $[u]_B = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}$  when  $u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n$ .

Ex: Let  $B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  and  $u = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$B$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (check!).

To calculate  $[u]_B$  we solve:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 0 & -4 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{5}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right] \quad \downarrow$$

$\therefore$  we've calculated coefficients  $c_1 = \frac{5}{4}$  and  $c_2 = \frac{3}{4}$  i.e.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{5}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{3}{4} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{check directly!})$$

$$\therefore [u]_B = \begin{bmatrix} 5/4 \\ 3/4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let  $B' = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . Now to compute  $[u]_{B'}$ :

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \quad \text{so} \quad [u]_{B'} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}. \quad \square$$

Note:  $[u]_B \neq [u]_{B'} \dots$

Ex: In  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_n = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  and every vector

$$u \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad \text{has} \quad [u]_{\mathcal{E}_n} = u \quad \square$$

Iden: create new bases from old ones...

Lemma (Steinitz Exchange Lemma): If  $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$  is a basis of vector space  $V$  and  $u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n$  has  $c_i \neq 0$ , then  $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}$  is a basis of  $V$ .

Pf: Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $B \subseteq V$  be a basis.

Assume  $u = c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n$  with  $c_i \neq 0$ .

(WTS:  $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\} = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{i-1}, u, b_{i+1}, \dots, b_n\}$  is a basis)

Let  $w \in V$  be arbitrary. We may express

$$w = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_n b_n \text{ for some } a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\text{Note } b_i = \frac{1}{c_i} (u - c_1 b_1 - c_2 b_2 - \dots - c_{i-1} b_{i-1} - c_{i+1} b_{i+1} - \dots - c_n b_n)$$

In particular,

$$\begin{aligned} w &= a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_i b_i + \dots + a_n b_n \\ &= \underline{a_1 b_1} + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_i \left( \frac{1}{c_i} u - \frac{c_1}{c_i} b_1 - \dots - \frac{c_{i-1}}{c_i} b_{i-1} - \frac{c_{i+1}}{c_i} b_{i+1} - \dots - \frac{c_n}{c_i} b_n \right) \\ &\quad + \dots + a_n b_n \end{aligned}$$

$$= \left( a_1 - \frac{a_i c_1}{c_i} \right) b_1 + \left( a_2 - \frac{a_i c_2}{c_i} \right) b_2 + \dots + \frac{a_i}{c_i} u + \dots + \left( a_n - \frac{a_i c_n}{c_i} \right) b_n$$

Hence  $w \in \text{span}(B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\})$ ; as  $w \in V$

was arbitrary, so  $\text{span}(B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}) = V$ .

To see  $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}$  is lin indep, suppose

$$0_V = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_i u + \dots + a_n b_n.$$

(First we'll show  $a_i = 0$ ). Replacing  $u = c_1 b_1 + \dots + c_n b_n$ ,



$$0_V = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + \underbrace{a_i (c_1 b_1 + c_2 b_2 + \dots + c_n b_n)}_{=0} + \dots + \underbrace{a_n b_n}_{=0}$$

$$= (a_1 + a_i c_1) b_1 + (a_2 + a_i c_2) b_2 + \dots + a_i c_i b_i + \dots + (a_n + a_i c_n) b_n$$

As  $B$  is linearly independent, we have

$$[a_j + a_i c_j] = 0 \text{ for all } j \neq i \text{ and } \underline{a_i c_i = 0}$$

Because  $a_i c_i = 0$ , we see either  $a_i = 0$  or  $[c_i = 0]$ .

But  $c_i \neq 0$  by assumption, so  $a_i = 0$ . On the other hand,

$$0 = a_j + a_i c_j = a_j + 0 c_j = a_j, \text{ so all the coefficients}$$

in  $a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_i u + \dots + a_n b_n = 0_V$  must be

$a_j = 0$ ; Thus  $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}$  is lin. indep.

Hence  $B \setminus \{b_i\} \cup \{u\}$  is lin. indep. and spanning, so it is a basis!  $\square$

Point: Given  $u \in V$  and basis  $B$  of  $V$ ,  
we can exchange  $u$  for any vector in  $B$   
w/ coeff.  $c \neq 0$  in the representation of  $u$  w.r.t.  $B$ .

Cor 1: Given bases  $A$  and  $B$  of  $V$ , and  
vector  $a \in A$ , there is a vector  $b \in B$  such  
that  $A \setminus \{a\} \cup \{b\}$  is a basis of  $V$ .

Sketch:  $a$  has a representation  $[a]_B$  w/  
at least one nonzero coeff, so choose any  
 $b \in B$  w/  $[a]_B$  has nonzero component for  $b$ .  $\square$

Cor 2: If  $V$  has a finite basis, then every basis has the same number of elements.

Sketch: Given bases  $A$  and  $B$  of  $V$  and a finite basis  $F$  of  $V$ , we proceed as follows. Take  $f \in F \setminus A$ . We can find  $a \in A$  s.t.  $F \setminus \{f\} \cup \{a\}$  is a basis. Do so until you remove all elements of  $F \setminus A$ .

The result is a basis contained in  $A$ . Thus, the result is itself  $A$ . At each step, the number of elements in our basis remains the same.  $\square$